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STATE
BERTRAM ROSENBERG
COUNSELLOR AT LAW

270 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

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DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

December 27th, 1935.

JANUARY 8 1936

Dept. of State,
Washington, D. C.

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Gentlemen:

Would it be possible for me to secure any information which will assist me in the following problem:

My client is an importer of African kid skins which originate in Eritrea. He entered into a contract whereby he agreed to sell and deliver, during the month of September, 1935, certain Eritrean kid skins. He was unable to perform this contract because as he understands, his agent in Eritrea was unable to obtain shipping facilities.

Would there by any chance be any official recognition of the state of facts which existed either in Asmara, the local point of shipment, or in Masowa, which is the point at which the goods were to be placed on the carriers.

It is of course true that the Italian government even at this date has not officially declared war against Ethiopia, or vice versa; nevertheless there may be some recognition in some official document showing either the state of commercial transportation in Asmara from Asmara to Masowa, or the state of congestion in the harbor at that time, or the fact that either Asmara or Masowa had been taken over by the Military prior to their Offensive, which as I understand it, started some time in the early part of October of this year.

Please be assured of my deep appreciation for any assistance that I may be able to secure, and awaiting an early reply possible, I am,

Very truly yours,

B. Rosenberg

BR:FW

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In reply refer to
WE 865A.1561/1

January 8 1936

Mr. Bertram Rosenberg,
Counsellor at Law,
270 Broadway,
New York, New York.

Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 27, 1935, in which you indicate that one of your clients has a contract for African kid skins which remains uncompleted for the reason ascribed to congested shipping facilities at Asmara, Eritrea, during the month of September, 1935. You inquire whether there is any way in which this Department may assist you in confirming the reported conditions at that port during the period given.

While it is true that certain reports have been submitted to the Department indicating that shipping movements were congested in Asmara during that period the Department is not in a position to authenticate the statement made by the shipper under contract as
there

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there is no way to determine what commercial facilities were being offered by vessels leaving Asmara from day to day during the month of September, 1935.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

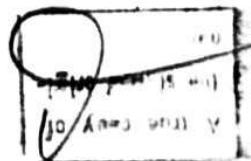
James Clement Dunn,
Chief, Division of Western
European Affairs.

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